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Applicants:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 25, 2004

Sir:

Applicant is submitting herewith for the Examiner's consideration copies of documents cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the European Search Report is attached. The documents are listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e).

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-

1449 is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 367.39780X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments